

Minutes
Fort McClellan Restoration Advisory Board
Fort McClellan, AL

Monday, July 15, 2002

Submission to RAB for approval – minutes of meeting July 15, 2002

PRESENT:

Co-Chair: Craig Branchfield, Glynn Ryan

Board Members: Scott Beckett, James Buford, Pete Conroy, Monty Clendenin, Barry Cox, Jerry Elser, Donna Fathke, Curtis Franklin, Ron Hood, William Kimbrough

BCT Members: Ron Levy, Doyle Brittain, Philip Stroud

JPA: Miki Schneider

A. CALL TO ORDER AND MINUTES

Mr. Branchfield called the meeting to order, conducted roll call, and asked for guest introductions. The Board approved the minutes for the May and June meetings.

B. OLD BUSINESS

1. Extension of Landfill EE/CA Public Comment Period

The Army extended the public comment period until August 19. Mr. Branchfield asked the RAB members to submit to him any further comments on the landfill EE/CA for Mr. Ron Grant, Technical Assistance Public Participation (TAPP) contractor, to address during the comment period.

2. Letter to Mr. Thomassy

Mr. Fern Thomassy offered his resignation to the RAB. Mr. Branchfield and Mr. Ryan prepared a letter thanking Mr. Thomassy for his service to the RAB.

3. Vote to Remove RAB member

Because Mr. Gary Stratton has not met the meeting attendance requirements stated in the RAB By-Laws, RAB members voted to remove him from the membership roster and will notify him by letter.

4. Applications for New Members

Mr. Branchfield reported there are two vacancies on the board, with a third anticipated before the next meeting. He asked the members to submit applications for proposed new members by August 12. The RAB plans to vote to fill vacancies at the September 16 meeting.

C. PROGRAM

1. Human Health Risk Assessment

Mr. Brittain introduced Mr. Ted Simon who is a toxicologist with the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. Mr. Simon began his presentation with an introduction to human health risk, then moved on to discuss the four parts of the EPA risk assessment, and finally discussed the protectiveness of risk assessments and how they are biased to be protective. He stated that decision makers use the risk assessment to make a risk management decision.

2. Ecological Risk Assessment

Mr. Levy introduced Mr. Rob Zimmer, the senior ecological risk assessor for Shaw Environmental and Infrastructure (formerly IT). Mr. Zimmer reiterated the definition of risk assessment is evaluating the likelihood that an adverse effect can or will occur in some receptor. He pointed out that while the previous presentation focused on a single receptor, humans, the ecological risk assessment looks at many species of animals and plants. He discussed the screening level ecological risk assessment (SLERA) and how and why a determination is made to stop at that point, after the second step in the eight-step EPA ecological risk assessment process, rather than continuing with the full process. He presented three basic questions that must be addressed in every ecological risk assessment regardless of whether it is a SLERA or the eight-step process. If the risk is unclear at the SLERA level the risk assessment is carried further into a baseline ecological risk assessment (BERA), and he explained that process.

3. Discussion on Landfill #3

Mayor Kimbrough asked for clarification concerning the recommendation reached in the Engineering Evaluation/Cost Analysis (EE/CA) for landfill #3 and the potential for conflict with any recommendations of the Remedial Investigation (RI) for groundwater contamination. Mr. Levy explained there were two separate investigations, one for landfill #3 and one for groundwater contamination, because no matter what action is taken at the landfill under the EE/CA the groundwater will continue to be contaminated and would require a separate remedy. Mr. Levy explained how the decision is reached to use EE/CAs versus RIs in the cleanup process.

4. Unexploded Ordnance Video

Due to the length of the meeting, the RAB decided to postpone the video until the next meeting.

D. NEW BUSINESS

1. Agency Reports

ADEM – Mr. Stroud provided a list of the reports ADEM is reviewing. He introduced Mr. Spencer Nelson of URS group, the unexploded ordnance contractor hired by ADEM.

EPA – Mr. Brittain stated he had spent the majority of the last month reviewing the landfill documents. Additionally, he has reviewed a few smaller documents such as the

screening ecological risk assessment for the small arms ranges at Iron Mountain Road. In response to a question, Mr. Brittain stated his review of the landfill EE/CA indicated there may be some additional data needed to determine the nature and extent of contamination and that EPA will be working with the Army concerning that. Mr. Ryan stated that comments from EPA and ADEM would be addressed after the public comment closes on August 19, and those comments and the Army response will be placed in the administrative record.

JPA – Ms. Schneider reported that Matrix Engineering has requested from the Army additional documents to review in developing comments to the landfill EE/CA. She also mentioned the possibility of a national preparedness university affiliated with Homeland Security locating at McClellan, property sales and rentals, and the potential for a convention center.

2. Action Summary Sheet

Mr. Levy stated that data on the off-site groundwater monitoring would be presented to the BCT (BRAC Cleanup Team) for review followed by a presentation to the RAB in August.

3. Technical Review Committee (TRC)

The TRC had nothing to report.

4. Update of TAPP contract hours

Mr. Levy reported that Mr. Grant billed for 25.5 hours leaving 474.5 hours in the contract. Mr. Grant stated he had not billed for the last month. Mr. Branchfield reminded the RAB that if they wanted Mr. Grant to review any of the documents listed on Mr. Stroud's summary of documents or anything on the action summary sheet, they should let him know.

E. AUDIENCE COMMENTS

There were no audience comments.

F. ADJOURNMENT

With no further business brought before the board, the meeting was adjourned.